Logistics Modernization

Logistics Modernization (LogMod) is a Marine Corps-wide, multi-year, people-focused program to improve processes and technology supporting MAGTF operations. LogMod consists of multiple initiatives that, when fully implemented, will enhance MAGTF effectiveness by providing increased accuracy, reliability and responsiveness of logistics information to Marines deployed on the battlefield.

Among the key initiatives that comprise the LogMod program are:

- Global Combat Support System-Marine Corps (GCSS-MC)
- Material Readiness Process Improvement (MRPI)
- Realignment of Maintenance (ROM)
- Realignment of Supply (ROS)
- Marine Air-Ground Task Force Distribution
- Logistics Command and Control (Log C2) Requirements
- Logistics Combat Element (LCE) Communications Bandwidth
- Marine Logistics Group (MLG) Restructure/Renaming

Logistics Modernization is simultaneously addressing technologies, processes, and people through adjustments to doctrine, training, and organizations. LogMod is the most comprehensive, end-to-end approach ever taken to improve MAGTF logistics and the Marine Corps is doing so with a laser focus at the tactical level.

GCSS-MC is the primary technology enabler for the Marine Corps Logistics Modernization strategy. It is a portfolio of approximately 40 systems that provide the backbone for all logistics information required by the Marine Air Ground Task Force. The core is modern, commercial-off-the-shelf enterprise resource planning software (Oracle 11ie-Businesss Suite) and will be interoperable with the logistics systems of other Services and supporting agencies. GCSS-MC's design is focused on enabling the warfighter to operate while deployed and reach back from the battlefield. The system is being implemented in blocks with Block I providing logistics chain management capability that will replace our decades old legacy supply and maintenance systems. Initial Operating Capability (IOC) in Fiscal Year 2009. The focus of future blocks will be on logistics planning, decision support, warehousing, distribution, asset visibility, other logistics functional areas, and integration with emerging technologies such as Radio Frequency Identification.

On the process side, LogMod's Transition Task Force (TTF) has received approval of its Solution Initiating Directive by the Marine Corps Combat Development Command. This led to the publication of a Solution Planning Directive to drive the changes in Marine Corps doctrine that will support more streamlined logistics processes. Among the changes will be the transition from five to three echelons of maintenance and realigning inventory management and distribution functions.

On the people side, the most visible and successful initiative is the reorganization of the Force Service Support Groups

into Marine Logistics Groups (MLG). This restructuring is the most extensive done by an element of the MAGTF since the mid-1970s. The new MLGs consist of direct and general support Combat Logistics Regiments focused on operational support on the battlefield.

All logistics-modernization efforts are supported by an extensive change management and communications program to ensure a concise, systematic, and strategically-timed effort to inform, train and support Marines at all levels who will be affected by the LogMod process and technology changes. Various groups are working closely with the Marine Corps Training and Education Command to modify officer and enlisted logistics education and training to be consistent with GCSS-MC fielding and the logistics architecture. Logistics Modernization Teams (LMTs) are conducting efforts that enable them to lead the face-to-face change management activities with the Marine Expeditionary Forces (MEFs) that are necessary to ensure LogMods successful implementation and adoption.

Other recent Logistics Modernization work includes the increased use of Automatic Identification Technology (AIT) with an emphasis on Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags. AIT, a suite of technologies that includes barcodes, RFID, optical memory cards and contact memory buttons, has been in use within commercial industry and DoD for several years. More recently, RFID is being aggressively pursued for implementation throughout DoD to enhance the spectrum of in-transit and total asset visibility (ITV and TAV) of resources throughout the logistics chain. Furthermore, it will provide valuable decision-making information to the MAGTF commander in support of the Combatant Commanders.

The Logistics Modernization program initiatives are now well underway on many fronts with good progress demonstrated throughout the past year. For more information and the most recent program developments visit the LogMod website at https://logmod.hqmc.usmc.mil.